

## APRICOTS TO MOUNTAIN TOPS

### PATHWAYS TO OPEN SPACE SPRING HIKE SERIES

**A**dventure is right here in our own backyard! Explore the hills and valleys of Los Altos Hills this Spring by stepping out on our Pathway system. Join me every second weekend on the Apricots to Mountain Tops hike where you'll enjoy sweeping vistas, historic places, an educational farm, unique riparian habitats, and expansive wilderness within open space preserves.

On Saturdays, lace up your boots and bring plenty of water and lunch for a challenging 8-mile loop. We'll take marked Pathways through the Town that connect to wilderness trails in MidPen Open Space. During this exceptionally scenic hike, we'll walk through the Packard Orchards, Byrne Preserve, Hidden Villa, along Adobe Creek, and up the Grapevine Trail to Rhus Ridge and Windmill Pasture. We'll amble back to our starting point via marked Paths. This approximately 4-hour hike is challenging but not difficult. It's a great way to learn how to use Pathways to connect to the vast array of trails through other jurisdictions.

On Sundays, we'll enjoy a shorter and moderately challenging version of this hike. We'll take a 5-mile loop that includes Packard Orchards, Byrne Preserve, and Hidden Villa farm. After a brief stop at the farm, we'll walk on the roadside Path along Moody Rd. and a creek side path through more Town Open Space. This approximately 2-hour hike is a great introduction for anyone wanting to learn more about using Pathways for fitness and fun.

I am an avid hiker and runner, urban planner, organic grilled cheese sandwich lover, and member of the Open Space Committee. Please contact me about this hike at: [hikeLAH@yahoo.com](mailto:hikeLAH@yahoo.com).

**When:** Second weekends, March 13 & 14; April 10 & 11; May 9; 10:00 AM.

**Where:** Meet at Pathway Marker to Packard Orchards, Elena Road and Josefa; next to Foothill College. Parking available along Josefa. Bring water. No dogs please.

—Ray Collins, Member Open Space Committee



*Apricots to Mountain Tops Trail*

## FIRE SEASON - HOT UPON US!

**T**he fire season is fast approaching! It is imperative that homeowners take steps to protect their homes from risks from partial or total fire loss. The Fire Department of Santa Clara County recommends the following:

- A. All flammable vegetation must be cleared a minimum of 30 feet around structures. Ornamental shrubbery and trees cleared of dead leaves and branches. Note: grading is prohibited by ordinance within the Town of Los Altos Hills prior to April 1st. Due to the increased erosion potential; discing is considered to be a form of grading and similarly prohibited. (Note: The LAH Environmental Design Committee recommends mowing to remove weeds, rather than discing because of the potential for erosion.)
- B. Roofs, eaves and rain gutters must be cleared of pine needles, leaves, or other dead or dying wood.
- C. Tree limbs shall be cut within 10 feet of chimneys and/or stovepipes. Dead limbs hanging over the house or garage must be trimmed.
- D. Chimney outlets or flues shall be covered with a spark arresting 1/2" mesh screen.
- E. Address shall be clearly visible for easy identification in an emergency.
- F. Trees 18 feet or taller should be limbed to 6 feet up from the ground.
- G. Woodpiles should be stacked a minimum of 30 feet from buildings, fences, and other combustible materials.
- H. All vegetation and other flammable materials should be cleared from beneath decks. Elevated decks should be enclosed with fire resistive materials.

Should you have a question about the compliance of your property with the required fire safety regulations, call the Fire Prevention Division of the SCC Fire Department at (408) 378-4010 to schedule an inspector to meet with you at your property. A Hillside Fire Survival Information Packet is available upon request.



Layout & printing by:



Print Innovations, Inc.